1. **National Food Security Mission (NFSM)**: The National Development Council on 29th May, 2007 adopted a resolution to launch a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, Food Security Mission. NFSM has been launched in 312 identified districts of 17 States from Rabi 2007-08. The NFSM, inter alia, covers Pulses. Its target is to increase production of pulses by 2 million tonnes by the end of the 11th Five Year Plan.

2. **Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana**: A new State Plan scheme of Additional Central Assistance (ACA) for Agriculture & Allied Sectors namely Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) has been launched during 2007-08 with an outlay of Rs.25,000 crore for the 11th Five Year Plan to enhance investment in agriculture and allied sectors. The broad objective of the scheme is to incentivize the States to increase public investment to achieve 4% growth rate in Agriculture and allied sectors in the 11th Five Year Plan.

3. **Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm & Maize (ISOPOM)**: ISOPOM is implemented in 14 major Oilseeds and Pulses growing States viz; Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. Under ISOPOM, assistance is given to the States to encourage farmers to grow pulses on a large scale.

4. **Increased Budgetary Outlay**: The actual expenditure on Agriculture and allied sector was Rs 22,000 crore in the 10th Plan. Government has increased the Central Government outlay on Agriculture and allied sector to Rs 87,000 crore in 11th Plan.

Review of ban on future trading of foodgrains

606. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is likely to review ban on future trade on foodgrains;

(b) if so, the facts and the details thereof;

(c) whether prices of agricultural commodities are likely to rise, if ban on future trade on foodgrains is lifted; and

(d) if so, the corrective steps Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) Forward Markets Commission had suspended futures trading in commodities namely tur, urad, wheat and rice in 2007. Subsequently, futures trading in chana, soy oil, potato and rubber were also suspended in May, 2008 till November, 2008. The suspension of futures trading chana, soy oil, potato and rubber has not been extended after November, 2008.

(c) No Sir, the Government had set up an expert committee under the Chairmanship of Professor Abhijit Sen, Member, Planning Commission to examine whether futures market was responsible for rise in the price of agricultural commodities. The Committee observed that the period during which futures trading has been in operation is too short to make any conclusive assessment regarding the impact of futures trading on the spot prices of commodities. Futures market only provides a platform for price discovery and is not *per-se* responsible for any rise/fall in the price of any commodity.

(d) Does not arise.